SOCCER STAR

SERVING VICTORIAN SOCCER

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SOUTH DOWN GEORGIE UP!

● Marconi's Fred de Jong tries to grab Georgie's Aki Kotzamichalis in a goalmouth scramble.

MELBOURNE'S pre-season fancy for the NSL title, South Melbourne, crashed for the second time in four days and now the hunt is on for at least one player to bolster its faltering midfield.

South lost to the classy Sydney Croatia last Thursday night at Olympic Park, then came back to Headquarters to fall to a revitalised Preston Makedonia in a rip-roaring affair that had the 6000-odd fans in a fever of excitement.

Without the injured Paul Wade and Steve Tasios, South's mid-field is barely ticking, and it needs reinforcing quickly.

It's a different story at Sunshine though, with George Cross riding high despite the loss of John Markovski and Robert Markovac.

Even with Paul Lewis sus-pended, Georgie was much too good for champion Marconi, thanks to a dynamic display from Ossie Latif.

The gloom has lifted a little at the Olympic Village too, with Heidelberg getting its first win, whilst Melbourne Croatia turned in a scintillating performance to down APIA in Sydney. You'll find reports on all these matches and more in our NSL section, commencing on page 8.

NSL RESULTS AT A GLANCE

- GEORGE CROSS 3 MARCONI 1
- PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 SOUTH MELBOURNE 1
- APIA 3 MELBOURNE CROATIA 4
- BLACKTOWN 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2
- HEIDELBERG 2 MELBOURNE JUST 1
- ST. GEORGE 2 WOLLONGONG 0
- SYDNEY CROATIA 2 ADELAIDE CITY 0

ABC TV SCORES ANOTHER OWN GOAL

The ABC made another sorry mess of trying to cover NSL soccer on Sunday — see SNIPPETS page 2

STOP PRESS

THE 1990 WORLD CUP DRAW

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SNIPPETS

By LES SHORROCK

New broom sweeps not so clean

WHEN Sir Arthur George stepped down from the presidency of the ASF after the Bicentennial Gold Cup, there was a general feeling that a new dawn in Australian soccer was about to break, that as good a job as Sir Arthur had done, his departure was overdue.

There was going to be a new broom sweeping away a lot of out-moded practices and the game would go on to bigger and better things.

And the departure of Mr Brian Emery from the chief executive post at the same time, making way for a man who had worked with the new ASF boss in Queensland seemed to augur well too.

Surely, we thought, with Ian Brusasco and secretary Alan Vessey coming into their new jobs together, there will be the least possible disruption as the old order gives way to the new.

But... were we wrong to expect an improvement?

So far, Ian Brusasco's track record seems to leave a lot to be desired. He has already made, or at least presided over the making of three decisions that have embroiled the ASF in bitter controversy, left a taste in the mouth and could finish up involving the game in costly litigation, and this is only in January!

Firstly, there was the decision to dump SBS TV in favour of granting the ABC the right to televise NSL matches.

Then the ASF tried to take away SBS's right to televise the Socceroos games. SBS won that battle, it still retains the rights to our International matches.

Thirdly, there was the matter of the sponsorship.

Welcome as the new sponsors are, how badly the whole affair was handled!

There was a naivety about the proceedings that not only puts the ASF in the worst possible light, but casts considerable doubt on the ASF's leaders' business acumen.

How naive was Brusasco when he said loftily after the sponsorship announcement had been made that he was sure Rothmans would understand and release the ASF from its obligation.

Surely mere good manners and business ethics called for the ASF to inform Rothmans beforehand of its intentions, instead of leaving it to the Press to break the news.

Now it appears, the ASF has a legal battle on its hands that it is by no means certain to win.

Wouldn't it be ironic if the new sponsorship money had to be spent settling a damages claim by the cigarette company!

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IF you see any George Cross supporters walking around wearing a bemused expression, don't laugh.

They are entitled to be bewildered after listening to the public address announcements last Saturday.

George Cross is now sponsored by the Road Traffic Authority and the team, resplendant in its new Stoke City strip of red and white stripes wears the RTA logo of .05, "Don't drink and drive".

But Alf in his frequent public address announcements spent the first half of the game exhorting his listeners to take head of the new sponsor's grim warning about the evils of drink-driving and the second half reminding the crowd of their obligation to consume as much West End beer as possible to support the League's sponsor!

What were they supposed to do Alf... take their beer away unopened?

Will Chaplin Reserve become the first NSL ground with a drive-in bottle-shop?

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COMMUNICATION IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

Talking of George Cross... believe it or not, the club is still waiting to be told whether it is to be allowed to play on Chaplin Reserve.

(No, no, the ground wasn't named in honour of the comedian).

Some months ago, club officials read in Melbourne's mass circulation newspaper that Chaplin Reserve wasn't up to the NSL's high standards and they wouldn't be allowed to play their games there.

So they waited gloomily for a letter from the NSL officeto that effect.. but guess what... no such letter ever came, no edict was handed down, and they are still play ing there.

(I've told you before Alf, about paying too much attention to that newspaper.)

When it comes to not getting mail from the NSL office, believe me, George Cross isn't Robinson Crusoe.

Despite the fact that an assistant to Peter Russell has been added to the staff, we still get media notices about match arrangements after the matches have been played.

With so many clubs re-arranging their games at the moment, we always

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OLD DEFENDERS NEVER DIE

Remember back at the end of last season how Adelaide City's Bugsy Nyskohus retired after setting a new NSL record of 294 games, only for that record to be eclipsed two weeks later by Tony Henderson who racked up his 295th game in the Grand Final?

Henderson's record hasn't lasted very long, though.

Faced with a mounting injury list, Adcity coach Zoran Matic called on the old warhorse again and Bugsy happily donned his boots and after one game on the bench, took the field last Sunday against Sydney Croatia.

There was no fairy-tale ending for Adelaide City's former captain, though, his team went down 2-0.

"I wasn't suppose to play as we left Adelaide," he says, "but on the plane to Sydney the coach started worrying about facing Robbie Slater and Graham Arnold without experienced defenders Paul Shillabeer and Alex Tobin and he talked me into playing."

Matic's nightmare came true, Slater and Arnold scored the goals that beat Adelaide City.

However, Nyskohus pulled up well and will probably have to play again this week.

Who knows, he might reach the magic 300 mark yet.

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THE OFFSIDE CLUB IS STILL ALIVE AND KICKING

Rumours to the contrary, Roger Hampson's departure from Olympic Park to the even more testing arena of troubled Essendon Football Club does not spell the end of the Offside Club.

Roger and I were instrumental in founding and naming the club, with the sole purpose of fostering goodwill amongst people engaged in every aspect of the world's most popular sport and even though the President's departure will be felt, the Club will go on to bigger and better events.

In any event, Roger has volunteered to stay on the committee for at least another year, and we are very grateful to be able to take advantage of his expertise.

The Offside Club's first function for '89 will be the lunch on Friday February 17, at which the guest speaker will be Roy Hodgson, manager of visiting Swedish champion Malmo.

Roy Hodgson has steered Malmo to four championships and with Sweden growing in sporting stature more and more, he's sure to have some interesting comments to make.

The cost of the luncheon at the Olympia Room No. 2 Ground, Olympic Park, is $25 and you can get your tickes by ringing Anna on 429 6288.

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CAN THE ABC LIFT ITS GAME?

Has anybody got a second-hand video tape-player to lend the ABC?

I said enough about last week's disastrous attempt at covering the NSL and I don't want to get too boring about it all, but this Sunday's effort was the pits.

Imagine, the taxpayers' channel, with all that money to chuck around, couldn't even get through an hour's video without the machine breaking down.

We watched fascinated as the ninny who is supposed to host (anchor?) the show took a two-minute 'phone-call from his producer without saying a word, before switching over to the Millwall v. Norwich Match of the Day.

If that's the best the mighty ABC can do, they would be better off handing the job back to SBS and sticking to Rugby.

You can tell the ABC's heart isn't in the project anyway, and as soon as Easter rolls round, the bum-sniffers will be getting priority again.

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SUMMER SOCCER A NIGHTMARE

The lunatics are at it again.

Yesterday's *Australian* carried a half-page story by Ray Gatt about the advantages and disadvantages of summer soccer, which was heavily weighted in favour of switching the game to summer.

The people canvassed for their opinions were all Sydneysiders, of course (we have come to terms with the fact that the earth is flat and Sydney is its capital).

Stefan Kamasz, who is no longer the Executive Director of the NSL was one person expressing his views.

It's a funny thing about Kamasz.

He has a far higher public profile now than he ever had when he was in the game, thanks to a ghosted column in the *Weekend Australian*, and the fact that he's always available for a comment.

Why didn't Gatt seek a quote from the *present* NSL Executive Director?

The pro-summer lobby claims there will be more media coverage in summer. Wrong.

There has not been one centimetre more coverage in the daily press about soccer, apart from articles about Stefan Kamasz, in fact as far as the *Age* is concerned, British soccer gets the lion's share.

The most noticeable aspect about the pro-summer faction too, is that their championship of summer soccer is purely academic.

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VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

THE VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

PROUDLY PRESENTS

1989 BUFFALO CUP FINAL

BETWEEN

MELBOURNE CITY JUST or
HEIDELBERG UNITED

V

SOUTH MELBOURNE or
PRESTON MAKEDONIA

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8

at Olympic Park. Kick-off 8.00 p.m.

PRECEDED BY

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OUR ACTION-PACKED PICTURE PAGE

● Croatia's Manis Lamond strides past South's Haris Micheil.

PICTURE: COSTA KOUTROPOULOS

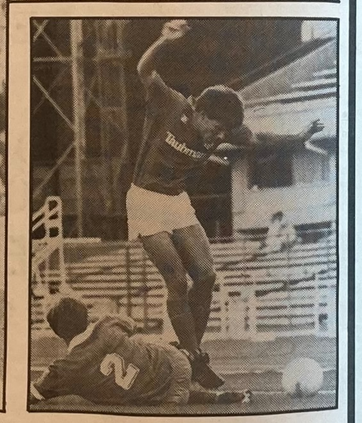
● TOP RIGHT: Peter Katholos and Osman Latif battle for the ball.

● CENTRE: Melbourne Croatia's Branko Milosevic.

● CENTRE RIGHT: Shane Clinch strides through a Bobby Russell tackle.

● BOTTOM LEFT: It takes three 'Berger defenders to cope with Francis Awaritefe.

● BOTTOM RIGHT: Phil Traianides palms away a high cross against South.



INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE NEWS

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NEW CLUBS TO PROMOTE JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Of the new clubs entering this year, two have been formed with the sole purpose of providing a natural progression for their juniors.

Previously, neither club had a senior section to which its juniors could progress as either age or outstanding talent made them eligible.

The result was that lads who had been around for some years, had either to leave their club to further their playing career under a new banner, or would drop out of soccer altogether.

While the League and the Victorian Soccer Federation have still to sort out whether players in the JLMC competition do or do not require transfers to move between their junior section and their I&ASLV senior section, any move which is likely to improve the playing ability of younger players, and to keep them in the sport, must be applauded.

ELWOOD UNITED

For many years, one of the best junior development schemes was run by the Hungarian Community-backed Melbourne Soccer Club.

Based on the Elwood Reserve, Melbourne Juniors continued their activities long after the Seniors had moved to another location.

With the demise of the "Melbourne" name some two years ago, the Junior Club was renamed Elwood United, and under that name has continued to produce young players of great ability.

The Elwood United senior club was formed in mid-1988, and was admitted to membership of the I&ASLV in November last. The club will field two teams in Division 2 Afternoon, and its progress will be watched with a great deal of interest.

Both President, Alistair Dobbs, and John Horvath are confident that the club will be very successful in short term, and in the longer term, as an outstanding crop of junior players matures, will become one of the League's most powerful clubs.

Anyone in th eSt Kilda-Brighton-Elwood areas wishing to be part of the dynamic development of this club may contact John Horvath on 580 3827.

DINGLEY UNITED

When the senior section of Dingley United merged with Skye Rovers to form Dingley-Skye Rover, it left behind a very well developed junior programme, as well as excellent facilities at the Chadwick Reserve.

Like the Elwood Juniors, the Dingley Juniors had become "orphans".

Under the Presidency of Henry Fox (547 5710), the Dingley United (senior) club applied for membership of the League, and was admitted to the 1989 competition.

At present, the club intends to field only one senior team, and will begin its League career in Fourth Division, but is confident that with the influx of recruits from its junior section it will rapidly move to a much higher standing in the League's ranks.

Players and supporters wishing to be part of the growth of the Dingley United Club can contact either President, Henry Fox, on the number given, or Secretary, Bernie Ray, on 547 6448.

EPPING THISTLE RETURNS

A former member of the League, Epping Thistle, has reapplied for membership.

Having competed in the League's competition for several years, Epping transferred to the VSF Amateur League soon after that League was formed.

The club fell on hard times, and finally dropped out of the Amateur League competition early in the 1988 season.

It has now been rejuvenated, and is seeking to take part in the 1989 season. If admitted, it will play in Division 4.

Anyone in the Epping area wishing to know more about this club can contact Bill Hamilton (President) on 467 2377.

Readers will remember that another club, Ford Falcons, which had been missing from the League's ranks for several years, has also been re-formed and will be part of the 1989 competition.

Ford Falcons was a high flyer during the seventies. It joined the league in 1974 in Division 3, and finished Runners-up with its striker, Mladen Mutic, the Division's leading goalscorer, having netted 29 times.

Earning promotion to Division 2, the club had its most successful year in 1976, when it won the Division 2 Championship, and was narrowly beaten Cup finalist.

Promoted to Division 1, the team found itself somewhat out of its depth, although its dynamic mid-fielder, Mike Hoar, was the 1977 Division 1 Best and Fairest.

The club continued to struggle, and finally folded half way through the 1978 season.

One of the good things about Faord Falcons was about Ford Falcons was that it received total company backing, and several Ford Motor Company executives played a major part on the League's Management Committee.

Everyone involved will hope that the Falcons' resurrection is a long term one, and that they will repeat the successes of their earlier years.

HAMPTON PARK, CSUV RE-ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP

Having had their membership of the League cancelled, through failure to comply with the League's standards in the 1988 season, Hampton Park United and CSUV, having agreed to the League's stringent pre-conditions, have reapplied for membership of the League, and have had their applications accepted.

It is expected that the third club in this category, St Albans Dynamo, will also soon agree to the conditions imposed upon them, and will also be re-admitted.

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THE GEELONG ADVERTISER CUP

By PAUL MILLAR
History tips home side
Teams go into battle for home town soccer trophy

History Tips Home Side

While Geelong might kick off the Geelong Advertiser Cup as red-hot favorites, history does not favor the Stead Park side.

The record books show the host team is the side to beat in the night soccer series and Hamlyn Rangers will pull out all the stops to continue the tradition.

Since the soccer classic started in 1981, there have been upsets, but a quick tally of points recorded show Geelong's top soccer sides are more than worthy of its league standings.

1981 — Ray Pocock's Bell Park won the trophy on its' home turf after beating a determined young Hamlyn Rangers side 1-0 in the final at Batesford WVSA was whacked 6-0 by Park, but produced the surprise of the series, beating West Geelong 2-1.

Geelong striker, Bobby Toal, wrote himself into the notoriety when the speedster was shown the red card in his debut game against North Geelong.

1982 — Corio snatched victory in the final in semi-darkness when it out-gunned Geelong United to win the final 3-2 in extra time. It was United's first run in the Cup and the underrated Italian-backed side knocked out favorite, North Geelong, to advance to the final.

1983 — Geelong crushed Geelong West 5-1 to lift the trophy, but the series will be remembered more for the Ash Wednesday bushfires than the soccer played.

Geelong's semi-final against Corio was abandoned as black burning winds swept across Stead Park. The Blues produced the goods on their home ground in the replay and went on to take the Cup.

1984 — Geelong West turned the tables on Geelong and won the series by beating the Blues 2-1. It was the third time in four years the home side had won the soccer classic. Rangers' mid-fielder, Steve Burns, broke his ankle against Bell Park to end a promising soccer career.

1985 — North Geelong started to dominate local soccer and stamped its mark on the trophy beating Geelong United 2-1 in the final at Hume Reserve.

1986 — North advanced to the final with a 100 per cent record and despite strong opposition from Geelong in the final, the Croatian backed side picked up the trophy for the second year in a row winning 2-0.

1987 — Brintons joined the series when the amalgamation between Corio and Geelong United left a vacancy. But it was Hamlyn Rangers which won the night Cup with a superb Billy Muir goal in the dying minutes of the final against East Geelong.

1988 — Bell Park promised round-ball supporters a soccer extravaganza and the host club put the local game on the map, securing the services of Bobby Charlton to kick off the semi-final.

Park drew with North in a controversial final, but clinched the trophy in the replay winning 6-4.

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Teams go into battle for home town Soccer Trophy

There is something special about winning the Geelong Advertiser Cup, just ask district soccer followers.

It is their tournament and they turn out in their thousands to see the cream of Geelong's soccer players contest the cut throat night series.

The Victorian League Cup does not even come close in crowd pulling power and the clubs pull out all the stops to put a show on for the fans.

Not only does the series hone players' skills for the coming season, it also puts money in clubs' coffers.

Bell Park is understood to have cleared more than $20,000 from last year's cup and was quick to dip into the transfer market.

The Bates outfit signed John Coutts from North Geelong and is tipped to buy a national league player this week.

The clu has also flown goalkeeper Gary Walker in from Scotland for the Cup.

Park's opponent in Group "B" C-GU has kept a low profile during the build-up, but last night signed full-back Wayne McNeight from Ballarat.

The Group B tussle is full of intrigue. North has indicated it will blood its youngsters in the cup while Hamlyn Rangers have brought five players across Bass Strait to boost their chances.

The new Rangers are an unknown quantity on the local scene. They might lok good at training, but whether they can compete in the break-neck pace of the cup will be determined tonight.

All the games will comprise of two 30 minute halves.

The cup is the only pre-season tournament sanctioned by the Victorian Soccer Federation and offers $2500 in prize money.

GEELONG soccer followers were not disappointed at Myers Reserve last week when they saw cup soccer at its best.

In the opening match of the Geelong Advertiser Cup, Corio-Geelong United caused an upset when it downed highly fancied Bell Park by a goal.

Park was expected to wipe the floor with United and early in the game things were going as anticipated.

The Batesford outfit swarmed all over the United penalty area, but clear-cut chances did not exist.

Park was knocking the ball about comfortably, while United was relying

● *Continued From Page 11*

The fiery first half produced four of the six yellow card cautions doted out by Canberra referee David Willcocks.

Olympic was unlucky to miss being awarded a penalty for a foul in the penalty box on striker Marshall Soper in the 14th minute, but by the same token the Demons could well have scored in the 38th minute when their ace midfielder Zarko Odzakov hit the cross bar from 30 metres range.

The Olympic goal four minutes before the break was a triumph for the often wayward Soper, who headed past opposing goalkeeper Bill Lundos from an inviting McGarry cross.

A minute later Blacktown midfielder Bobby Naumov missed scoring when he volleyed over the far from right in front.

In a less frenetic second half, Olympic midfielder Jason Polak might well have put the result out of Blacktown's reach in the 79th minute, but he shotby.

Blacktown striker Lawrie McKinna can blame Olympic's Kiwi midfielder Robert Ironside for blocking a near certain goal close to time.

But when Blacktown substitute Peter Bennett upended Edwards in the penalty area in the 40th minute it was left to McGarry to charge in like a runaway express train to capitalise for a 2-0 Olympic victory.

UPSET CUP WIN

on hopeful punts up the middle.

But with 10 minutes played, things started to go wrong for Park.

A lazy corner swept into the penalty area should have been cleared, the defence hesitated and George Watters lashed a deflected shot off the goal-line.

United sensed panic in the Park backline and moved in for the kill.

It was still anybody's game, but Peter Smith had other ideas. The mid-fielder took the ball in his stride, looked up, saw Paul Den Ouden racing upfield and planted a 30 metre pass at his feet.

The striker hesitated, carried it too far and then clipped a wicked drive that deflected into the net and United was 1-0 up.

With its reputation at stake, Park came back with a vengeance, but United held on desperately.

Park continued to pressure in the second half, but Sergio Di Blasi had Tommy Cumming well covered and the Whites were struggling for openings.

With time ticking away it was United which took the initiative raiding the flanks through Steve Radojevic and George Van Der Chys.

Just to rub salt into the wound Domonic Implambato clipped a dipping drive which de-flected onto the crossvar.

In the second match a young North Geelong side had to fight all the way to beat Hamlyn Rangers 3-2.

It was scrappy game but there was plenty of effort and each goal was a classic.

Jim Fraser put Rangers on the scoreboard first. With a piece of wizardry, he juggled the ball over a lunging tackle and volleyed home. Rangers were in the lead 1-0.

Ivan Skoko twisted his way down the right wing hitting a low drive goal-ward, John Hrkac met it with a diving header and the scores were level at 1-1.

After a break, Munro crossed, Fraser nodded the ball home and Rangers were in front.

With Rangers supporters still cele-brating, Skoko swept down the left wing and thumped the ball into the net to equalise at 2-2.

When a draw looked on the cards, Patrick Allovic snatched a late winner hitting a dipping drive over the Rangers wall into the middle of the net making it 3-2.

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ROUND TWO DETAILS

WOLLONGONG CITY 4(Crainie 4th,o.g 15th,Easthorpe 46th,Brodnik 50th).BLACKTOWN CITY 1(Denyer 60th)
At Brandon Park,Thursday.Referee J.Reeves.
WOLLONGONG:Young - Kotamanides,Morlando,Vlietstra Hollifield - Stefanovski,Bonetig,Skeen,Crainie - Brodnik,Easthorpe.Coach John Fleming.
BLACKTOWN:Londos- Sterrey,Reynolds,Northam,Meier - van Blerk,Denyer,Odzakov,Divyljak -Naumov,McKinna. Coach Les Scheinflug.

ADELAIDE CITY 0 ST.GEORGE 1(Bingley 56th)
At Hindmarsh Stadium,Thursday.Referee J.Rossis.
Cautions Maxwell (AC),Ilic,Bingley(StG).
ADELAIDE CITY:Zabica- Naven,Northcote,Flounders, Sergiacomi- Melta,Clarkson,Villani(Sharpe 81st), Vidmar -Maxwell,Mullen.Coach Zoran Matic.
ST.GEORGE:Gibson - Morakeas,Koczka,Ratcliffe, O'Shea - Moffitt,Pottier,Ilic,Grbevski,Bingley, Ollerenshaw(Adoboe 70th) Coach Frank Arok.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 APIA LEICHHARDT 1(Radosavljevic 63rd).
At St.George Stadium,Thursday.Crowd 6141.Referee R.Lorenc.Cautions Barrett,Ironside,Raskopoulos(S) Pezzano,O,Connor,Kosmina(A).
SYDNEY OLYMPIC:Gosling- Barrett,Koch,Dakos,Bernal - Ironside,Raskopoulos,Polak,Lee- McGarry,Soper. Coach Eddie Thomson.
APIA LEICHHARDT:Pezzano -Stewart,O'Connor,Mason, M.Brown,- Radosavljevic,Bundalo,Ellam,Ricoy - R.Brown,Kosmina.Coach Mike Urukalo.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 SYDNEY CROATIA 1(Slater 50th).
At Olympic Park,Thursday.Crowd 3199,Referee C.Bambridge.
SOUTH MELBOURNE:McLaren -Russell,Anezakis,Blair, Postecoglou - Healy,P.Foster,Micheil(Fernandez 60th) Tsolakis(Mori 65th) - Trimboli,Wright. Coach Brian Garvey.
SYDNEY CROATIA:Krajnovic - Savor,Rozic,Hunter, Jennings- Clinch,Arnold(Krslevic 88th)C.Foster, Rezo - Slater, Lamond(Ingham 65th). Coach Vedran Rozic.

MARCONI 1(Lowe 62nd) MELBOURNE CITY 1(Dimoski 76th).
At Marconi Stadium,Thursday,Crowd 3885.
Referee W.Monteverde.
MARCONI:Catlin - Carter,Wheatley,Calderan, de Marigny - McCulloch(Gomez 80th),Gray, Katholos,Lowe(Caliguri 84th).
Coach Berti Mariani.
MELBOURNE CITY:Nikitovic - Deankovic,van Egmond,Barjaktarevic,Durakovic - Fabrizio,Tapai, Crino,Tortevski - Palatsides,Dimoski. Coach Ilija Dimoski.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2(Selemides 57th,Biskic 76th) HEIDELBERG UNITED 1 (Theodosopoulos 12th).
At North Sunshine,Thursday.Crowd 3000,
Referee J.Fraser.Cautions Cannell,Milosevic(M.C) MELBOURNE CROATIA:Olver-Donnelly,Selemides, Cannell,Hannah - Davidson, Milosevic,Biskic - Caleta,Awaritefe(Valentic 88th),Kelic. Coach Ivan Reznjezvic.
HEIDELBERG UNITED:Chatzitrifonos - Patiniotis, Lucchesi,Ousalkas,Bordignon - Douglas,Alagozidis(Raynes 64th) Kanesoulis, Burgess - Theodosopoulos(Goutzioulis 79th),Stubbins.Coach Jim Tansey.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2(Latif 55th,Lewis pen. 82nd) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 1(Spink 4th).
At Chaplin Reserve, Thursday.Crowd 2000.Referee J.Fearn.Cautions Jolevski,Jackson,Tasevski(PM) Lewis (GX).
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS:Keogh- Marth,Kotzamichalis Parton,Campelj - Carter,McLaren,Waddell,Faulkner Lewis,Latif.Coach John Gardiner.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA:Traianides- Roodhouse,Jackson, Piculovski,Jolevski - Tasevski,Petrov(Runje 77th),Taseski(Markovski 52nd),Markovac - Spink, Smith.Coach Andon Doncevski.

N.S.L MIDWEEK ROUND-UP

By LES SHORROCK

FORM reversals were very much the order of the day in the second round of the NSL season, played last Thursday.

Sunshine George Cross, a team that should never be underrated, fought back from a goal down against Preston Makedonia, whilst South Melbourne buoyed up by that impressive win against St. George must have left its form behind in Sydney and went down at home to Sydney Croatia.

Heidelberg threatened to throw a wet blanket over the opening of Melbourne Croatia's new ground at North Sunshine when it took an early lead, but Croatia fought back well to relieve some of the pressure on Ivan Raznjevic, and add another wrinkle to Jim Tansey's brow.

Melbourne City demonstrated that its win over arch-rival Croatia was no fluke by gaining a meritorious point at Marconi (despite a jaundiced newspaper report by a Sydney journalist, the Blues were full value for the point they brought back).

Les Scheinflug must have wished he had stayed in Syria as his team was thrashed by Wollongong, whilst APIA kicked its way to an astonishing win over pre-season favourite Sydney Olympic.

St. George too, after looking so inept against South in the opening game made a rapid recovery to win over City in Adelaide.

Most of the pundits were inclined to belittle George Cross' chances this season, after the club was unable to hang on to John Markovski and Robert Markovac.

But they reckoned without Ossie Latif and Paul Lewis.

Could this, finally, be Latif's big year?

The gifted striker has always promised so much in the past, only to disappoint, but he's already got the Georgie fans singing his praises, and his partnership with Paul Lewis could yet prove the most fruitful in the League.

And if the Lewis/Latif pairing doesn't prove to be tops what about another brand new partnership, between Ivan Kelic and Francis Awaritefe at Melbourne Croatia.

A more unlikely pair of running mates it would be hard to envisage.

These two, from such widely differing backgrounds, make the odd couple look like David and Jonathan.

Awaritefe, the tall black Englishman with the Ruud Gullitt dreadlocks and coloured headband (already irreverently nicknamed Whoopi Goldberg), is playing alongside a tall, pale skinny Croatian kid who just happened to walk away with last season's State League goalscorer award.

Could he repeat the feat in the NSL this year?

He's proved he has a nose for goals and with Awaritefe's blinding speed unsettling defences, Kelic could grab a bagful.

It was so obvious last Thursday night that wnever Awaritefe got near the ball, the Berger defence got the jitters.

At Sutton in the South of England, Awaritefe has been playing in a better class of soccer, and as his coach points out, he has to learn not to dwell on the ball too much, or he'll continue to get clobbered.

Perhaps the ost surprising aspect of a surprising second round was the lack of sophistication shown by South in its game against Sydney Croatia.

Big Alan Hunter was able to put Paul Trimboli in his pocket because the service the talented striker got was diabolically bad.

South is missing Paul Wade desperately and that loss might be good for South, if only that it reinforces coach Brian Garvey's argument that he needs a couple of players to strengthen his squad.

Heidelberg appeared in a brand-new look of black and yellow stripes (new nickname the Tigers, maybe?), and when it took the lead after 18 minutes poulos it appeared that it might have turned the corner. But Croatia displayed the better strength of character to fight back and after its equaliser there was only one team in it.

It's hard to be optimistic about Heidelberg's chances, which is a shame, because Melbourne soccer needs a strong Heidelberg/South Melbourne rivalry to life the local scene.

The problem is that despite snapping up whatever was available locally, Heidelberg still has only one player of NSL quality in its ranks, veteran Claude Lucchesi.

ODD SPOT: Blacktown's reserve coach achieved the rare distinction of scoring for both teams in the match against Wollongong.

He put through his own goal first, then scored his side's only goal!

Thursday's Results

ADELAIDE CITY 0 ST GEORGE 1 (Bingley)
MARCONI 1 (Lowe) MELBOURNE CITY 1 (Dimoski)
MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Selemides, Biskic)
HEIDELBERG UNITED 1 (Theodosopoulos)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (Slater)
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (Lewis, Latif) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 1 (Spink)
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (Radosaljevic)
WOLLONGONG C 4 (o.g. Crainie, Easthorpe, Brodnik) BLACKTOWN C 1 (Denyer)

New pace gives win to Croatia

APIA LEICHHARDT 3 (Kosmina pen. 35th, Ricoy 67th, Kagan 88th MELBOURNE CROATIA 4 (Milosevic 11th, Awaritefe 24th, Kelic 43rd, 83rd)

THE blistering pace of new English striker Francis Awaritefe earned Melbourne Croatia a 4-3 win over previously unbeaten Apia Leichhardt at Lambert Park on Saturday.

Apia was forced to play up during the entire game, twice trailing by a two-goal margin.

The Melbourne team seemed set for a comfortable win when it led 3-1 at half-time.

Dreadlocked Londoner Awaritefe, who moves like Ruud Gulith joined Croatia late last year from English non-League club Sutton United, which two weeks ago, knocked first division Coventry City out of the FA Cup.

He displayed deceptive speed with his long, loping strides and had a hand in all four goals.

He played havoc with a flat-footed Leichhardt defence, paving the way for his fellow strikers to bombard Tony Pazzano's goal with shots from every angle.

Awarilefe's goal in the 24th minute was the highlight of a fast-moving match.

He took the ball down the by-line and dribbled it into the net.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *FRANCIS AWARITEFE*

He also brought about Croatia's three other goals with pinpoint crosses to unmarked partners.

Apia saved face with a first-half penalty converted by John Kasmina after Rod Brown had been brought down.

At the 65-minute mark, Apia's hopes were boosted when Pedro Ricoy headed an in-swinging cross from Rod Brown past Socceroo goalkeeper Jeff Olver.

Apia's onslaught looked likely to clinch an equaliser when Awaritefe struck again, setting up Ivan Kelic for his second goals and although Apia scored again through Kevin Hagan, the Victorian side held on for a deserved win.

DETAILS ROUND THREE

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 3 (Latif 43rd,Faulkner 47th,Hasler 78th)
MARCONI 1 (Nastevski pen.18th)
At Chaplin Reserve,Saturday.Crowd 1000.
Ref.B.Mackay.Cautions,McLaren,Kotzamichalis, Campelj,Parton (G.X),de Marigny,Nastevski(M).
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS:Keogh - Marth,Parton, Kotzamichalis,Campelj - Waddell(Lennon 67th), Faulkner,McLaren,Carter - Latif(Taylor 87th), Hasler.Coach John Gardiner.
MARCONI:Catlin - Carter(Gomez 78th),Wheatley, Calderan,de Marigny - Gray,Caliguri,Katholos, Lowe - Nastevski,De Jong(Colucci 87th). Coach Berti Mariani.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Zinni 52nd,Spink 55th)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (Mori 44th)
At Olympic Park,Sunday.Crowd 6100.Referee D.Voutsinas.Cautions Zinni(PM),Postecoglou(S)
PRESTON MAKEDONIA:Traianides - Roodhouse, Jackson,Piculovski,Jolevski - Tasevski,Zinni, Markovski(Slifkas 80th),Markovac- Spink,Smith (Taseski 75th). Coach Andon Doncevski.
SOUTH MELBOURNE:McLaren-Russell,Anezakis,Blair, Postecoglou - Healy,Foster,Micheil(inj.Mori 9th),Tsolakis(Fernandez 77th - Wright,Trimboli. Coach Brian Garvey.

APIA LEICHHARDT 3(Kosmina pen.35th,Ricoy 67th, Hagan 88th).MELBOURNE CROATIA 4(Milosevic 11th, Awaritefe 24th,Kelic 43rd,83rd).
At Lambert Park,Crowd 2000.Referee P.Spiers.
APIA LEICHHARDT:Pezzano-Stewart,O'Connor,Mason, M.Brown - Radosavljevic,Bundalo,Ellam,Ricoy - R.Brown,Kosmina(Hagan 75th).Coach Mike Urukalo.
MELBOURNE CROATIA:Olver-Donnelly,Hannah,Cannell, Davidson - Valentic,Milosevic,Caleta,Biskic - Awaritefe,Kelic. Coach Ivan Reznjavic.

BLACKTOWN CITY 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2(Soper 42nd, McGarry 90th).
At Gabbie Stadium,Sunday.Crowd 2000.
Referee D.Willcocks.
BLACKTOWN CITY:Londos- L.Sterrey,Reynolds, Northam,G.Sterrey -Divyljak(Bennett 63rd)Meier, Odzakov,Naumov - Welch(Jee 66th),McKinna.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC:Meier- Barrett,Koch,Dakos(Hooker 83rd),Bernal - Ironside,Raskopoulos,Polak,Lee (Edwards 66th) - McGarry,Soper. Coach Eddie Thomson.

HEIDELBERG UNITED 2 (Raynes 14th,Stubbins 45th) MELBOURNE CITY 1 (Palatsides 78th)
At Olympic Village,Monday.Crowd 4500.Referee J.Fraser.Cautions,Raynes(H),Palatsides(MC)
HEIDELBERG UNITED:Chatzitrifonos - Patiniotis, Lucchesi,Ousalkas,Bordignon-Douglas,Burgess, Theodosopoulos,Kanesoulis - Stubbins,Raynes (Alagozidis 60th).Coach Jim Tansey.
MELBOURNE CITY:Nikitovic- Deankovic,van Egmond, Barjaktaravic,Durakovic - Fabrizio,Tapai,Crino, Tortevski - Dimoski,Palatsides. Coach Ilija Dimoski.

ST.GEORGE 2(Ollerenshaw 10th,50th)WOLLONGONG 0
At St.George Stadium,Sunday.Crowd 1659.
Referee A.Townsend.
ST.GEORGE:Gibson:Lampropoulos,Ratcliffe,O'Shea, Morakeas - Kozcka,Kakakios,Moffitt,Pottier - Ollerenshaw,Bingley.Coach Frank Arok.
WOLLONGONG:Young-Kotamanides,Morlando,Vlietstra, Hollifield - Stefanovski(Giraldi 80th),Bonetig (Higgs 80th),Skeen,Crainie - Brodnik,Easthorpe. Coach John Fleming.

SYDNEY CROATIA 2(Slater 12th,Arnold 90th), ADELAIDE CITY 0.
At Croatian Sports Centre,Sunday.Crowd 5374.
Referee P.Lorenc.
SYDNEY CROATIA:Krajnovic-Savor,Rozic,Hunter, Clinch - Arnold,Foster,Rezo,Ingham - Slater, Lamond(inj.Krslevic 10th).Coach Vedran Rozic.
ADELAIDE CITY:Zabica-Naven,Nyskohus,Flounders. Sergiacomi - Northcote,Melta,Villani,Vidmar - Maxwell,Melta.Coach Zoran Matic.

N.S.L. LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SYDNEY CROATIA	3	3	0	0	4	0	6
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	3	2	0	1	6	1	4
GEORGE CROSS	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
MELBOURNE CROATIA	3	2	0	1	7	7	4
ST.GEORGE	3	2	0	1	3	3	4
Melbourne City	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Wollongong	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
APIA Leichardt	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Marconi	3	1	1	1	3	4	3
South Melbourne	3	1	0	2	4	3	2
Preston Makedonia	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Blacktown City	3	1	0	2	3	7	2
Heidelberg United	3	1	0	2	3	7	2
Adelaide City	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

N.S.L. GOALSCORERS

3.Dimoski(MC)
Kelic(MC)

2.Latif(GX)
Ollerenshaw(SG)
Slater(SC)
Soper(SO)
Spink(PM)

1.Arnold(SC)
Awaritefe(MC)
Bernal(SO)
Bingley(SG)
Biskic(MC)
Brodnik(W)
Calderan(Mar)
Crainie(Woll)
Crino(MC)
Denyer(Bl)
Easthorpe(W)
Faulkner(GX)
Hagan(AP)
Hasler(GX)
Ingham(SC)
Ironside(SO)
Kosmina,p(AP)
Lewis(GX)
Lowe(Mar)
McGarry(SO)
McKinna(Bl)
Melta(AC)
Milosevic(MC)
Mori(SM)
Nastevski.p(Mar)
Palatsides(MC)
Postecoglou(SM)
Radoslavjevic(AP)
Raynes(H)
Ricoy(AP)
Selemides(MC)
Theodosopoulos(HU)
Trimboli(SM)
Tsolakis(SM)
Van Blerk(Bl)
Zinni(PM)

CROATIA TOO SLICK FOR WEAK SOUTH

SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (Slater 49th)

AT Olympic Park last Thursday evening star-studded Sydney Croatia became the only NSL side to maintain a 100 per cent winning record, when it convincingly defeated South Melbourne 1-0.

South Melbourne did not give the new league leaders much trouble due to the non-xistence of a competitive midfield.

The performance indicated that Socceroo Paul Wade and Steve Tassios were sorely missed, whilst also proving coach Brian Garvey's point that the South squad requires a couple of experienced signings to compensate for any injuries incurred during the season.

Well before the season started Garvey insisted upon strengthening his small squad, but the committee members at Aughtie Drive dismissed such claims and unfortunately now have egg on their faces.

Twenty-eight minutes into the game Sydney Croatia's Craig Foster came close to opening the scoring but was denied by the crossbar, after heading the ball from a Shane Clinch corner. Nine minutes later South goalie Bruce McLaren pulled off a magnificent save to enable South some breathing space.

After a string of one-two's involving Drago Rezo, Robbie Slater and Graham Arnold, McLaren was forced to dive to his left and one-handedly save Arnold's effort from twelve metres out.

Sydney Croatia's efforts around the South Melbourne goal paid off only four minutes into the second-half, thanks to Robbie Slater who sprinted 20 metres with the ball and planted a left-foot shot into the net from just inside the box.

As Sydney Croatia continued to close its opponents down rapidly, the lead was nearly added to in the sixty-first minute.

Arnold was a great nuisance to South all night. He came close to scoring when a shot at goal was saved by McLaren and the ball rebounded back into Arnolds path but his second attempt brushed the outside netting.

As South pushed forward in the hope of salvaging at least a point, holes were left in the defence which allowed Croatia to look dangerous on the break.

In the seventy-third minute a good move involving Vedran Rozic, Sean Ingham and Arnold very nearly paid off. The cross from the right wing found Arnold's head and beat McLaren but bounced just before the far post and was cleared by South skipper Bobby Russell.

Only moments later South was saved by the woodwork for the second time and once again it was Arnold who was causing South headaches.

As the match drew to a close Croatia returned to Sydney with two very valuable points while denting South Melbourne's ambition to keep in touch with the pacesetters at the top of the table.

● *COSTA KOUTROPOULOS*

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *GRAHAM ARNOLD*

● *Andrew Zinni: Back with a bang.*

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

RECRUITING STARTS TO PAY OFF FOR PRESTON

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Zinni 52nd, Spink 55th)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (Mori 45th)

THE most remarkable recruiting campaign in the National Soccer League started to pay dividends on Sunday night when Preston came from behind to beat powerful South Melbourne 2-1 at Olympic Park.

Andrew Zinni, the former Succeroo scored in his Preston debut with the other goal coming from Warren Spink, a member of Frank Arok's present national team.

Preston bought Young Socceroo John Markovski and forward Robert Markovac from Sunshine George Cross, Zinni from Brunswick Juventus, Spink from Melbourne JUST, Robert Runje from Croydon City and Ilija Taseski from Altona Gate.

But due to suspensions and national team duties, many of the stars were absent when Preston lost its first two matches against Marconi and George Cross.

Zinni made a difference on Sunday, as did Markovski, who was in the starting line-up for the first time since returning from Syria with the national youth team, and George Stiskas, who was on the bench on Sunday.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *ANDREW ZINNI*

Preston coach Andon Doncevski, who had a giant headache trying to fit so many brilliant attacking players into the one team, came up with the perfect line up, using a five-man defence and letting five other players attack.

Zinni was ostensibly a wide mid-fielder on the left but spent most of the match up front next to strikers, Spink and Steve Smith.

With Markovac also spending most of the match as a striker, Markovski was left as the only midfielder — yet he had more shots at goal than any of his teammates.

South Melbourne, the only Victorian team to reach the 1988 finals, has now suffered two successive defeats after a good victory over St George in the opening round.

South Melbourne took the lead a minute before half time when Damian Mori, who had replaced injured Harris Mihaji, ran onto a throw-in and rammed the ball powerfully into the net from 16 metres.

Five minutes after the break Markovski provided a glimpse of what was to come when he sent a free kick thundering against the crossbar.

Two minutes later star defender George Jolevski won the ball and played it short to stopper Zoran Tasevaki, who relayed it to Zinni for the equalising g From a corner by Tasevski in the 56th minute, Markovski headed goalwards and Spink applied the finishing touch for the winning goal.

'Bergers beat the Blues

HEIDELBERG 2 (Raynes 14th, Stubbins 44th)
MELBOURNE CITY 1 (Palatsides 78th)

Heidelberg United secured its first points of the new season when it defeated Melbourne City Just 2-1 at the Olympic Village on Monday night.

This match also ended Melbourne's unbeaten run, and hoisted Heidelberg off the bottom of the WENSL ladder.

The game began very well for Heidelberg as it shot to a two goal advantage in the first-half.

The first goal arrived in the 14th minute and was scored by Heidelberg's Willie Raynes.

Heidelberg's Lou Theodosopoulos beat an opposition player down the left wing and with the outside of his boot delivered a ball to Raynes.

A low left foot shot by Raynes which hit the back of the net meant that Heidelberg were in business.

Then on the stroke of half-time Heidelberg added its second goal.

Heidelberg's Steve Douglas intercepted a cross by Melbourne's Luciano Fabrizio.

With a quick touch Douglas sent Phil Stubbins on his way to beat two defenders and score with his left foot.

Even though Melbourne's keeper Zoran Nikitovic came out to close the angle after stubbins had left the defenders behind him, Stubbins kept his cool and placed the ball into the left hand corner of the net.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *CLAUDE LUCCHESI*

during the first-half the action was fast and furious.

Players at times were late with their tackling, which delayed the game as players pushed each other in an effort to sort out their differences.

In the second-half however the two teams turned on some really exciting football.

As Melbourne pushed forward in a bid to protect their unbeaten record Heidelberg stretched their defensive skills to the maximum.

The action from end to end although it was Melbourne who did the most went on attacking.

In the 78th minute Melbourne pulled a goal back through Joe Palatsides.

A fierce long range shot by Fabrizio forced Heidelberg keeper Mile Chatzitrifonos to tip the ball onto the bar.

Palatsides was the quickest off the mark and headed the ball in to the goal, forcing a cliffhanger in the final twelve minutes.

Four minutes later Heidelberg defender Peter Bordignon came to the rescue as he cleared a headerby Palatsides off the goal-line.

In the 86th minute WENSL top scorer, Melbourne's Milan Dimovski, also came within a whisker of snatching a draw.

A corner by Deankovic from the right found Dimovski whose header beat everyone, but landed on the wrong side of the left post.

Two minutes from the end a chance to wrap up the match went begging to Stubbins.

A good move involving Theodosopoulos and substitute Aki Alagozidis produced a cross which deceived the Melbourne defence.

With Nikitovic wrong-footed Stubbins came screaming in from the blind side and ballooned the ball over the bar from a mere four metres out.

However, Heidelberg hung on and survived the late onslaught from Melbourne.

Now with a win under its belt who knows what a little confidence can produce?

● *COSTA KOUTROPOULOS*

Scott moves Saints up

ST GEORGE 1 (Ollerenshaw 10th, 76th)
WOLLONGONG 0

St George moved up the ladder with a 2-0 win over reigning minor league premier Wollongong City at the St George Stadium on Sunday night.

Socceroo striker Scott Ollerenshaw scored twice with a well taken goal in each half.

With the game only 10 minutes old he cleverly lobbed Wollongong goalkeeper Warwick Young from 20 metres after meeting a header from Craig Moffatt off a corner kick.

Despite dominating most of the second half Wollongong was unable to finish off.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *SCOTT OLLERENSHAW*

The Wolves were denied by a tight-marking defence well marshalled by national team sweeper Andy Koszka.

St George goalkeeper Mike gibson also played his part in keeping Wollongong at bay. In the 50th minute he made the save of the match, diving full length at the feet of Randell Easthorpe to prevent an equaliser.

Saints' breakaway tactics paid dividends 40 minutes from fulltime when Ollerenshaw latched on to a long through-ball to score his second goal with an 18 metre angled drive.

The goal deflated Wollongong and the Saints came closer to adding further goals.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 1989

● *Back row: Gary Hasler, Snr. (Team Manager), Paul Lewis, Mark Lennon, Osman Latif, Shaun Parton, Sean Keogh, Andrew Marth, Aki Kozamichalis, John Waddell, Chris Ketsakides, Roger Borg (trainer).*
Front row: George Alavezos, Gary Hasler, Les Carter, Chris Taylor, Jeff Faulkner, John Campelj, Don McLaren.

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Marconi is crossed

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 3 (Latif 43rd, Faulkner 47th, Hasler 70th)
MARCONI 1 (Nastevski, pen. 18th)

He would be a brave man who ever dismissed Sunshine George Cross before a game.

Georgie isn't one of your fashionable, big spending clubs, it plays in a battler's area and it's one of the game's battlers itself.

But it never knows when it is beaten, and last week it demonstrated that attribute to the North degree.

It took the stupidity of playing three games in seven days in its stride, coming from behind to win on the Thursday and then on Saturday sending the 1988 champions home to Sydney a well-beaten side.

Before the game comparing Marconi's star-studded side with a Georgie team shorn of the awesome John Markovski, without Robert Markovac and with new purchase Paul Lewis suspended, it didn't seem fair.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *OSSIE LATIF*

Somehow, you felt, there should be some sort of handicapping, maybe the under-dog should be given a goal start or something. In the event, it turned out to be the other way round.

Thanks to some diabolically bad refereeing by newcomer Brett Mackay from that hotbed of top soccer, Hobart, it was Marconi that was given the goal start.

Peter Katholos seemed to fall over his feet in the area, and the ineffable Mackay gave Marconi a penalty, which Zlatko Nastevski duly and coolly converted.

Marconi looked like a winner then, but it didn't upset Georgie and a brace of goals either side of half-time soon settled the issue.

Despite the absence of his scoring mate, the dynamic Ossie Latif ran the Marconi defence absolutely ragged, well supported by veteran Jeff Faulkner who even scored a goal as well.

Young Gary Hasler's 70th minute goal was merely the icing on the cake, for by then all Marconi wanted was to get on the 'plane and go home.

Great stuff Georgie.

SYD. CROATIA CRUISES HOME

SYDNEY CROATIA 2 (Slater 12th, Arnold 90th)
ADELAIDE CITY 0

Sydney Croatia maintained its strong challenge for the title with a comfortable 2-0 victory over bottom-placed Adelaide City at the Croatian Sports Centre on Sunday night.

Six points from the first three matches without conceding a goal emphasises Croatia's strength.

"We were without a number of key players tonight yet we still won comfortably," captain-coach Vedran Rozic said.

"It's a good position to be in when we still have keeper Tony Franken and fullback Graham Jennings coming back from injury, Ante Rumora being available in a couple of weeks and Manis Lamond hopefully not out for too long."

Lamond was forced to come off after 10 minutes with a suspected fractured shoulder after falling awkwardly, but his absence did not affect the team's rhythm.

A corner kick from the right was deflected to Graham Arnold for Robbie Slater to head Croatia into a 12th minute lead.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *GRAHAM ARNOLD*

City also has injury problems with new signing Lenny Vial, midfielder Adrian Santran, full backs Paul Shillabeer and Alex Tobin on the sidelines forcing coach Zoran Metic to recall veterans, Bugsy Nyskohous and Neville Flounders into the side.

"I still expect my side to perform irrespective who is playing," he said in a despondent Adelaide city dressing room.

"We are playing some attractive soccer without being able to punish our opponents."

Croatia put enormous pressure on the City defence which at times appeared to lack leadership and cohesion.

Yet Croatia had to wait until the 90th minute to make sure of both points when man of the match Graham Arnold climbed high to send his header into the top corner of the net past keeper Robert Zabica.

OLYMPIC BOUNCES BACK OVER DEMONS

BLACKTOWN 0
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (Soper 42nd, McGarry 90th)

Sydney Olympic bounced back from Thursday's 1-0 defeat by Apia to down Blacktown City 2-0 at the Fabbic Stadium on Sunday.

But Olympic coach Eddie Thomson was far from satisfied with his team's performance.

"In Michael McGerry we have the best crosser at the ball in all Oceania," Thomson said.

"But will we give it to him? No. Things will have to change.

"We showed glimpses of form but no more than that."

But for newcomer Alistair Edwards, the substitute who showed all the class in the world after coming on in the 67th minute for Grant Lee, a place in the starting lineup this weekend against St George is a certainty.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *MICHAEL McGARRY*

● Continued P.7

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 1989

● *Back row: Ian Roodhouse, George Jolevski, Robert Markovac, John Markovski, Phil Traianides, Bill Piculovski, Steve Smith, Zoran Tasevski.*
Front row: IlijaTaseski, George Slifkas, Steve Jackson, Andrew Zinni, Warren Spink.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

ROUND ONE
Saturday April 1st

Bentleigh G v Boronia
E Bruns/Ivanh v Keys
Langw v Williamstown
Pascoe V v Karingal U
Rosanna v Moreland P R
Hamlyn R v Clayton
Ferntree G v Regent

ROUND TWO
Saturday April 8th

Clayton v Ferntree G
Morel P R v Hamlyn R
Karingal U v Rosanna
Williamstown v Pascoe V
Keys v Langwarrin
Regent v Bentleigh G
Boronia v E. Bruns/Ivanh

ROUND THREE
Saturday April 15th

E. Brunsw/Ivanh v Bentl Greens
Langwarin v Boronia
Pascoe V v Keysborough
Rosanna v Williams
Hamlyn R v Karingal Un
Ferntree G v Morel PR
Clayton v Regent

ROUND FOUR
Saturday April 22nd

Moreland PR v Clayton
Karingal Un v Ferntree G
Williams v Hamlyn R
Keysborough v Rosanna
Regent v E. Bruns/Ivh
Boronia v Pascoe V
Bentl G v Langwarrin

ROUND FIVE
Saturday April 29th

Langwarrin v E Bruns/Ivh
Pascoe V v Bentl Greens
Rosanna v Boronia
Hamlyn R v Keysborough
Ferntree G v Williamst
Clayton v Karingal U
Moreland P R v Regent

ROUND SIX
Saturday 6th May

Karingal Un v Moreland PR
Williamst v Clayton
Keysb v Ferntree G
Regent v Langw
Boronia v Hamlyn R
Bentl Gr v Rosanna
E Bruns/Ivanh v Pascoe V

ROUND SEVEN
Saturday May 13th

Pascoe V v Langwarrin
Rosanna v E. Bruns/Ivanh
Hamlyn R v Bentl Greens
Ferntree G v Boronia
Clayton v Keysb
Moreland P R v Williamst
Karingal Un v Regent

ROUND EIGHT
Saturday May 20th

Williamst v Karingal Un
Keysb v Moreland P R
Regent v Pascoe V
Boronia v Clayton
Bentl Gr v Ferntree G
E.Bruns/Ivh v Hamlyn R
Langwarrin v Rosanna

ROUND NINE
Saturday May 27th

Rosanna v Pascoe V
Hamlyn R v Langwarrin
Ferntree G v E.Bruns/Ivh
Clayton v Bentl Gr
Moreland P R v Boronia
Karingal Un v Keysborough
Williamstown v Regent

ROUND TEN
Saturday June 3rd

Keysb v Williamst
Regent v Rosanna
Boronia v Karingal Un
Bentl Gr v Morel P R
E.Bruns/Ivh v Clayton
Langw v Ferntree G
Pascoe V v Hamlyn R

ROUND ELEVEN
Saturday June 10th
Queens Birthday

Hamlyn R v Rosanna
Ferntree G v Pascoe V
Clayton v Langwarrin
Moreland P R v E.Bruns/Ivh
karingal Un v Bentl Gr
Williamst v Boronia
Keysb v Regent

ROUND TWELVE
Saturday June 17th

Regent v Hamlyn R
Boronia v Keysb
Bentl Gr v Williamst
E.Bruns/Ivh v Karingal Un
Larngw v Moreland P R
Pascoe V v Clayton
Rosanna v Ferntree G

ROUND THIRTEEN
Saturday June 24th

Ferntree G v Hamlyn R
Clayton v Rosanna
Moreland P R v Pascoe V
Karingal Un v Langwarrin
Williamst v E.Bruns/Ivh
Keysb v Bentl Gr
Regent v Boronia

ROUND FOURTEEN
Saturday July 1st

Boronia v Bentl Gr
Keysb v E.Bruns/Ivh
Williamst v Langw
Karingal Un v Pascoe V
Moreland P R v Rosanna
Clayton v Hamlyn R
Regent v Ferntree Gully

ROUND FIFTEEN
Saturday July 8th

Fernt G v Clayton
Hamlyn R v Morel P R
Rosanna v Karingal Un
Pascoe V v Williamst
Langw v Keysb
Bentl Gr v Regent
E.Bruns/Ivh v Boronia

ROUND SIXTEEN
Saturday July 15th

Bentl Gr v E.Bruns/Ivh
Boronia v Langw
Keysb v Pascoe V
Williamst v Rosanna
Karingal Un v Hamlyn R
Moreland P R v Ferntree Gully
Regent v Clayton

ROUND SEVENTEEN
Saturday July 22nd

Clayton v Morel P R
Ferntree G v Karingal Un
Hamlyn R v Williamst
Rosanna v Keysb
E.Brunsw/Ivanh v Regent
Pascoe V v Boronia
Langw v Bentl Gr

ROUND EIGHTEEN
Saturday July 29th

E.Bruns/Ivh v Langw
Bentl Gr v Pascoe V
Boronia v Rosanna
Keysb v Hamlyn R
Williams v Ferntree G
Karingal Un v Clayton
Regent v Morel P R

ROUND NINETEEN
Saturday August 5th

Morel P R v Karingal Un
Clayton v Williamst
Ferntree G v Keysb
Langw v Regent
Hamlyn R v Boronia
Rosanna v Bentl Gr
Pascoe V v E.Bruns/Ivanh

ROUND TWENTY
Saturday August 12th

Langw v Pascoe V
E.Bruns/Ivh v Hamlyn R
Bentl Gr v Hamlyn R
Boronia v Ferntree G
Keysb v Clayton
Williamst v Morel P R
Regent v Karingal Un

ROUND TWENTY-ONE
Saturday August 19th

Karingal Un v Williamst
Moreland P R v Keysb
Pascoe Vale v Regent
Clayton v Boronia
Ferntree G v Bentl Gr
Hamlyn R v E.Bruns/Ivh
Rosanna v Langw

ROUND TWENTY-TWO
Saturday August 26th

Pascoe Vale v Rosanna
Langw v Hamlyn R
E.Bruns/Ivh v Ferntree G
Bentl Gr v Clayton
Boronia v Morel P R
Keysb v Karingal Un
Regent v Wiliamst

ROUND TWENTY-THREE
Saturday September 2nd

Keysb v Williamst
Rosanna v Regent
Karingal Un v Boronia
Morel P R v Bentl Gr
Clayton v E.Bruns/Ivh
Ferntree G v Langw
Hamlyn R v Pascoe V

ROUND TWENTY-FOUR
Saturday September 9th

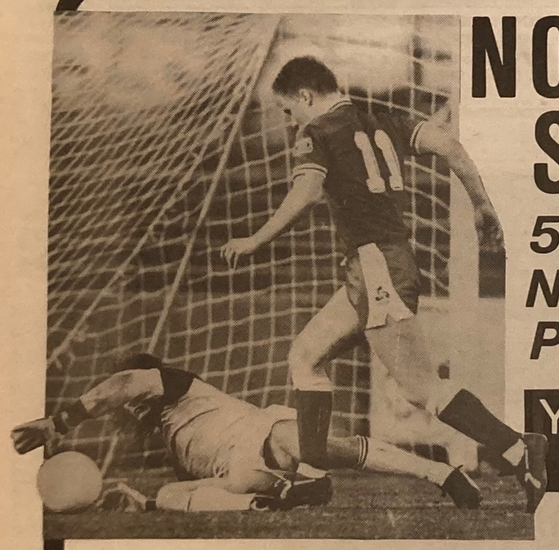
Rosanna v Hamlyn R
Pascoe V v Ferntree G
Langw v Clayton
E.Bruns/Ivh v Morel P R
Bentl Gr v Karingal Un
Boronia v Williamst
Regent v Keysborough

ROUND TWENTY-FIVE
Saturday September 16th

Hamlyn R v Regent
Keysb v Boronia
Williamst v Bentl Gr
Karingal Un v E.Bruns/Ivh
Moreland P R v Langw
Clayton v Pascoe V
Ferntree G v Rosanna

ROUND TWENTY-SIX
Saturday September 23rd

Hamlyn R v Ferntree G
Rosanna v Clayton
Pascoe V v Moreland P R
Langw v Karingal Un
E.Bruns/Ivh v Williamst
Bentleigh Gr v Keysborough
Boronia v Regent



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ROUND ONE
Saturday April 1st

Springv C v Malvern C
Oakl Sub v North Sunsh.
West Meadows v Bruns C
South Yarra v West Vale
Melton v Wav Un
Mossfiel R v Berwick C
Prahran v East Geelong

ROUND ONE
Saturday April 1st

rSpringv C v Malv. C
Oakl Sub v North Sunsh.
West Mead v Brunsw. C
South Yarra v West Vale
Melton v Wav Un
Mossfiel R v Berwick C
Prahran v East Geelong

ROUND TWO
Saturday April 8th

rBerwick C v Prahran
Wav Un v Mossfiel R
West Vale v Melton
Brunsw C v South Yarra
North Sunsh v West Meadows
East Geelong v Springv C
Malvern C v Oakl Sub

ROUND THREE
Saturday April 15th

rOakl Sub v Springv C
West Mead v Malv C
South Yarra v Nth Sunsh
Melton v Brunsw C
Mossfiel R v West Vale
Prahran v Wav Un
Berwick C v East Geelong

ROUND FOUR
Saturday April 22nd

rWav Un v Berw C
West V v Prahran
Brunsw C v Mossfiel R
North Sunsh v Melton
East Geelong v Oakl Sub
Malvern C v Sth Yarra
Springv C v West Meadows

ROUND FIVE
Saturday April 29th

rWest Meadows v Oakl S
South Yarra v Springv C
Melton v Malvern City
Mossfiel R v Nth Sunsh
Prahran v Bruns C
Berwick C v West Vale
Wav Un v East Geelong

ROUND SIX
Saturday May 6th

rWest Vale v Wav Un
Brunsw C v Berwick C
Nth Sunsh v Prahran
East Geelong v West Meadows
Malv C v Mossfiel R
Springv C v Melton
Oakl Sub v Sth Yarra

ROUND SEVEN
Saturday May 13th

rSouth Yarra v West Meadows
Melton v Oakl Sub
Mossfiel R v Springv C
Prahran v Malvern C
Berwick C v Nth Sunshine
Wav Un v Brunswick C
West Vale v East Geelong

ROUND EIGHT
Saturday may 20th

rBrunsw C v West Vale
Nth Sunsh v Wav Un
East Geel v Sth Yarra
Malvern C v Berwick C
Springv C v Prahran
Oakl Sub v Mossfiel R
West Meadows v Melton

ROUND NINE
Saturday May 27th

rMelton v South Yarra
Mossfiel R v West Mead
Prahran v Oakl Sub
Berwick C v Springv C
Wav Un v Malvern City
West Vale v Nth Sunsh
Brunswick C v East Geelong

ROUND TEN
Saturday June 3rd

rNth Sunsh. v Bruns. C
East Geelong v Melton
Malvern C v West Vale
springv C v Wav Un
Oakl Sub v Berwick C
West Meadows v Prahran
Sth Yarra v Mossfiel R

ROUND ELEVEN
Saturday June 10th
Queens Birthday

rMossf R v Melton
Prahran v South Y
Berw C v West Mead
Wav Un v Oakl Sub
West Vale v Springv C
Bruns C v Malvern C
Nth Sunsh v East Geelong

ROUND TWELVE
Saturday June 17th

East Geelong v Mossf R
Malvern C v Nth Sunsh
Springv C v Brunsw C
Oakl Sub v West Vale
West Meadows v Wav Un
Sth Yarra v Berwick C
Melton v Prahran

ROUND THIRTEEN
Saturday June 24th

rPrahran v Mossf R
Berw C v Melton
Wav Un v Sth Yarra
West Vale v West Mead
Brunsw C v Oakl Sub
Nth Sunsh v Springv C
East Geelong v Malvern C

ROUND FOURTEEN
Saturday July 1st

rMalvern C v Springv C
Nth Sunsh v Oakl Sub
Brunsw C v West Mead
West Vale v Sth Yarra
Wav Un v Melton
Berwick City v Mossfiel R
East Geelong v Prahran

ROUND FIFTEEN
Saturday July 8th

rPrahran v Berw C
Mossfiel R v Wav Un
Melton v West Vale
Sth Yarra v Brunsw C
West Meadows v Nth Sunsh
Springv C v East Geelong
Oakl Sub v Malvern C

ROUND SIXTEEN
Saturday July 15th

rSpringv C v Oakl Sub
Malvern C v West Mead
Nth Sunsh v Sth Yarra
Brunsw C v Melton
West V v Mossfiel R
Wav Un v Prahran
East Geelong v Berwick C

ROUND SEVENTEEN
Saturday July 22nd

rBerw C v Wav Un
Prahran v West Vale
Mossfiel R v Brunsw C
Melton v Nth Sunsh
Oakl Sub v East Geel
South Yarra v Malv C
West Meadows v Springv C

ROUND EIGHTEEN
Saturday July 29th

rOakl Sub v West Mead
Springv C v Sth Yarra
Malvern C v Melton
Nth Sunsh v Mossfiel R
Brunswick C v Prahran
West Vale v Berwick C
East Geelong v Wav Un

ROUND NINETEEN
Saturday August 5th

rWav Un v West Vale
Berwick C v Brunsw C
Prahran v Nth Sunsh
West Mead v East Geelong
Mossfiel R v Malvern C
Melton v Springv C
South Yarra Oakl Sub

ROUND TWENTY
Saturday August 12th

rWest Meadows v Sth Yarra
Oakleigh Sub v Melton
Springv C v Mossfiel R
Malvern City v Prahran
Nth Sunsh v Berw C
Bruns C v Wav Un
East Geelong v West Vale

ROUND TWENTY-ONE
Saturday August 19th

rWest Vale v Bruns C
Wav Un v Nth Sunsh
South Yarra v East Geel
Berwick City v Malvern C
Prahran v Springv C
Mossfiel R v Oakl Sub
Melton v West Meadows

ROUND TWENTY-TWO
Saturday August 26th

Sth Yarra v Melton
West Meadows v Mossf R
Oakl Sub v Prahran
Springv C v Berwick C
Malvern C v Wav Un
Nth Sunsh v West Vale
East Geelong v Bruns C

ROUND TWENTY-THREE
Saturday September 2nd

rBruns C v Nth Sunsh
Melton v East Geelong
West Vale v Malvern C
Wav Un v Springv C
Berw C v Oakl Sub
Prahran v West Meadows
Mossfiel R v Sth Yarra

ROUND TWENTY-FOUR
Saturday September 9th

rMelton v Mossfiel R
Sth Yarra v Prahran
West Meadows v Berw C
Oakl Sub v Wav Un
Springv C v West V
Malvern C v Bruns C
East Geelong v Nth Sunsh

ROUND TWENTY-FIVE
Saturday September 16th

rMossfiel R v East Geel
Nth Sunsh v Malvern C
Bruns C v Springv C
West Vale v Oakl Sub
Wav Un v West Mead
Berwick C v Sth Yarra
Prahran v Melton

ROUND TWENTY-SIX
Saturday September 23rd

rMossfiel R v Prahran
Melton v Berw C
Sth Yarra v West Vale
Oakl Sub v Bruns C
Springv C v Nth Sunsh
Malvern C v East Geel

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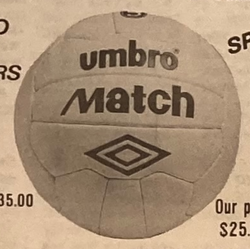

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1990 MATCH SCHEDULE

1990 WORLD CUP FINALS (in Italy)

Team numbers to be allocated at the December 9 draw in Rome but Argentina, as holders, are expected to be No 5, hosts Italy No 1. Kick-offs as per local time.

FIRST ROUND

Group A (Olimpico, Rome/Comunale, Florence)

Sat, June 9	1 v 2	Rome	9pm
Sun, June 10	3 v 4	Florence	5pm
Thu, June 14	1 v 3	Rome	9pm
Fri, June 15	2 v 4	Florence	9pm
Tue, June 19	1 v 4	Rome	9pm
Tue, June 19	2 v 3	Florence	9pm

Group B (Opening Game at Meazza, Milan/San Paolo, Naples/Della Vittoria, Bari)

Fri, June 8	5 v 6	Milan	6pm
Sat, June 9	7 v 8	Bari	5pm
Wed, June 13	5 v 7	Naples	9pm
Thu, June 14	6 v 8	Bari	9pm
Mon, June 18	5 v 8	Naples	9pm
Mon, June 18	6 v 7	Bari	9pm

Group C (Comunale, Turin/Luigi Ferraris, Genoa)

Sun, June 10	9 v 10	Turin	9pm
Mon, June 11	11 v 12	Genoa	5pm
Sat, June 16	9 v 11	Turin	5pm
Sat, June 18	10 v 12	Genoa	9pm
Wed, June 20	9 v 12	Turin	9pm
Wed, June 20	10 v 11	Genoa	3pm

Group D (Meazza, Milan/Renato Dell'Ara, Bologna)

Sat, June 9	15 v 16	Bologna	9pm
Sun, June 10	13 v 14	Milan	9pm
Thu, June 14	14 v 16	Bologna	5pm
Fri, June 15	13 v 15	Milan	9pm
Tue, June 19	13 v 16	Milan	9pm
Tue, June 19	14 v 15	Bologna	5pm

Group E (Comunale, Verona/Friuli, Udine)

Tue, June 12	17 v 18	Verona	5pm
Wed, June 13	19 v 23	Udine	9pm
Sun, June 17	17 v 19	Verona	9pm
Sun, June 17	18 v 20	Udine	9pm
Thu, June 21	17 v 20	Verona	5pm
Thu, June 21	18 v 19	Udine	5pm

Group F (Sant'Elia, Cagliari/Della Favorita, Palermo)

Mon, June 11	21 v 22	Cagliari	9pm
Tue, June 12	23 v 24	Palermo	9pm
Sat, June 16	21 v 23	Cagliari	9pm
Sun, June 17	22 v 24	Palermo	5pm
Thu, June 21	21 v 24	Cagliari	9pm
Thu, June 21	22 v 23	Palermo	9pm

SECOND ROUND

Sat, June 23	B1 v A3/C3/D3	Naples	5pm
Sat, June 23	A2 v C2	Bari	9pm
Sun, June 24	C1 v A3/B3/F3	Turin	5pm
Sun, June 24	D1 v B3/E3/F3	Milan	9pm
Mon, June 25	A1 v C3/D3/E3	Rome	9pm
Mon, June 25	F2 v B2	Genoa	5pm
Tue, June 26	F1 v E2	Bologna	9pm
Tue, June 26	E1 v D2	Verona	5pm

QUARTER-FINALS

Sat, June 30	W/Genoa v W/Rome	Rome	9pm
Sat, June 30	W/Turin v W/Verona	Florence	5pm
Sun, July 1	W/Naples v W/Bologna	Naples	9pm
Sun, July 1	W/Bari v W/Milan	Milan	5pm

SEMI-FINALS

Tue, July 3	W/Florence v W/Rome	Naples	8pm
Wed, July 4	W/Milan v W/Naples	Turin	8pm

THIRD PLACE MATCH

Sat, July 7		Bari	8pm

FINAL

Sun, July 8		Rome	8pm

1989 WORLD INDOOR CUP

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A

Jan 5 (Rotterdam): Holland 4, Denmark 2 — Paraguay 5, Algeria 0.
Jan 7 (Amsterdam): Denmark 2, Paraguay 2 — Holland 4, Algeria 1.
Jan 8 (Arnhem): Paraguay 2, Holland 2 — (Amsterdam) Denmark 8, Algeria 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	3	2	1	0	10	5	5
Paraguay	3	1	2	0	9	4	4
Denmark	3	1	1	1	12	10	3
Algeria	3	0	0	3	5	17	0

Group B

Jan 6 (Leeuwarden): Hungary 3, Brazil 2 — Spain 8, Saudi Arabia 2.
Jan 7 (s'Hertogenbosch): Brazil 8, Saudi Arabia 0 — Spain 5, Hungary 3.
Jan 8 (Leeuwarden): Hungary 11, S. Arabia 2 — (s'Hertogenbosch) Brazil 4, Spain 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	0	1	14	4	4
Hungary	3	2	0	1	17	9	4
Spain	3	2	0	1	14	9	4
Saudi Arabia	3	0	0	3	4	27	0

Group C

Jan 6 (s'Hertogenbosch): Belgium 3, Japan 0 — Argentina 3, Canada 1.
Jan 7 (Leeuwarden): Belgium 2, Canada 0 — Argentina 2, Japan 1.
Jan 8 (Leeuwarden): Canada 6, Japan 2 — (s'Hertogenbosch) Belgium 3, Argentina 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	3	3	0	0	8	1	6
Argentina	3	2	0	1	6	5	4
Canada	3	1	0	2	7	7	2
Japan	3	0	0	3	3	11	0

Group D

Jan 5 (Amsterdam): Italy 5, Zimbabwe 1 — Australia 1, United States 1.
Jan 7 (Arnhem): United States 5, Zimbabwe 1 — Italy 6, Australia 1.
Jan 8 (Arnhem): United States 4, Italy 1 — (Amsterdam) Australia 4, Zimbabwe 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
United States	3	2	1	0	10	3	5
Italy	3	2	0	1	12	6	4
Australia	3	1	1	1	6	8	3
Zimbabwe	3	0	0	3	3	14	0

SECOND ROUND

Group One

Jan 10 (Rotterdam): Holland 3, Hungary 3 — Belgium 5, Italy 1.
Jan 11 (Arnhem): Hungary 2, Belgium 2 — Holland 4, Italy 1.
Jan 12 (Arnhem): Belgium 2, Holland 1 — (Rotterdam) Italy 3, Hungary 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	3	2	1	0	9	4	5
Holland	3	1	1	1	8	6	3
Hungary	3	0	2	1	6	8	2
Italy	3	1	0	2	5	10	2

Group Two

Jan 10 (Arnhem): Brazil 5, Paraguay 1 — United States 3, Argentina 1.
Jan 11 (Rotterdam): United States 2, Paraguay 0 — Brazil 6, Argentina 3.
Jan 12 (Arnhem): Paraguay 4, Argentina 3 — (Rotterdam) United States 5, Brazil 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
United States	3	3	0	0	10	4	6
Brazil	3	2	0	1	14	9	4
Paraguay	3	1	0	2	5	10	2
Argentina	3	0	0	3	7	13	0

SEMI-FINALS

Jan 14 (Rotterdam): Brazil 4, Belgium 3 — Holland 2, United States 1.

THIRD PLACE MATCH

Jan 15 (Rotterdam): United States 3, Belgium 2.

THE FINAL

Brazil 2 (Benatti, Raul), Holland 1 (Loosveld). Referee: W.Crombie (Scotland).

BRAZIL:- Lula (Silvio Sergio Astor G.Machado), Cadinho (Joao Ricardo P.Sampaio), Dirceu (Dirceu Ventura Teixeira), Gilson (Gilson Ferreira), Marginhos (Marcos da Silva Simpson), Benatti (Sergio Benatti Pascuil de Curel), Attila (Attila Storni), Raul (Raul de Cerqueira Lazarde), Toca (Carlos Octavio C.dos Santos), Carlos Alberto (Carlos Alberto da Cunha), Neimar (Neimar Jose Veladeras de Castro), Adilinho (Sergio Luiz Coelho Pinto), Adilio (Adilio de Oliveira Gonsalve). Coach: Gerson Tristeo.

Note: Gilson and Attila did not play in the final.

HOLLAND:- Ton Baltjula, Jaffray Fore, Andre Tielens, Vic Hermans, Ruud Loosveld, Rein Van der Heuvel, Wiljan Van Vlijelijken, Mario Fore, Eduard Demandt, Hans Van Leeuwen, Andre Bakker, Michel Kreuner, Michel Wentzel. Coach: Ron Groenewoud.

Note: Van Vlijelijken and Van Leeuwen did not play in the final.

Tournament top scorers:- Zsadanly (Hun) 7 goals; Benatti, Toca (Bra), Borostyan (Hun), Hermans (Hol) 5 each.

Fair Play Trophy: United States.

THERE was neither a Guillit nor a Careca on hand in Rotterdam as they faced Brazil in the first of FIFA's newest creation, their inaugural Futsal Indoor Cup for five-a-side football.

Leading teams of generally unknown indoor specialist players, there were few name players to thrill the crowds as the low-key tournament progressed.

Played in differing formats across the globe, as well as under different rules, the indoor game has presented a curious and fragmented scenario.

The development of a definitive set of rules was undertaken by FIFA in 1985 and a number of tournaments took place to put the new statutes to the test.

With minor tuning, the world body were pleased with their new conception and invited 16 nations to compete in Holland.

In October, an Indoor Championship had been staged in several Australian cities, although this was not the new FIFA game but the long-established futebol de salao (better known as futsal) indoor game.

Futsal has its own governing body, the Sao Paulo-based FIFUSA, whose officials were present in Holland to study the FIFA indoor game.

Meetings are planned to bring FIFUSA into the FIFA fold, examine their differences and consider any amendments to the rules, which are at present open to some revision.

Incidentally, there are 62 differences between the FIFA and futsal games — and they are not the only kinds of indoor soccer widely played.

Given the lack of publicity, it was hard to predict which of the 16 countries could be considered serious contenders for the title.

None expected Holland, Belgium or Hungary among the European contenders to do well, along with the usual players of Brazil and Paraguay.

The South American neighbours have contested the recent final of the World Cup of futsal, the Paraguayans ending Brazil's three-year undefeated run in this sphere with a 2-1 victory in Melbourne.

The first round in Holland served to separate the weaker nations from the serious contenders and some high-scoring matches ensued, though genuine excitement was usually lacking.

In one absorbing encounter, Paraguay faced Denmark's outdoor players, controlled the first-half by using their keeper as a libero and turned around with a single goal advantage.

After the interval, the Danes used their keeper in a similar manner and extracted a draw, sharing four goals.

The extravagant touches of the futsal specialists provided some enjoyment while the surprise team of the competition, the United States, sent a team that integrated both outdoor players from their national squad, as well as players from the indoor league, the MISL.

Eight qualifiers progressed to the second round — Spain, Canada, Denmark and Australia were all eliminated having performed creditably while Algeria, Japan, Zimbabwe and Saudi Arabia finished pointless, suffering at times while learning valuable lessons about the indoor game.

The second round paired off the four European sides into one group, with the other containing four from the Americas.

In Group A, Belgium and Holland progressed to semi-final places at the expense of Hungary and Italy.

Under KNVB staff coach Ron Groenwoud, the Dutch had faced some adverse press comment but did enough to qualify despite losing their final group match 2-1 to Belgium in Arnhem.

The meetings of the American sides provided slightly better fare, with the USA bringing an unbeaten record into the second round.

They came from behind to [illegible] Argentina 3-1, saw off [illegible] 2-0 before facing Brazil in the [illegible] match.

[illegible] a 2-0 interval lead, they [illegible] some anxious moments [illegible] pending their advantage to [illegible] in the game.

[illegible] talented Brazilians pulled [illegible] late goals to go down 3-5.

[illegible] the US thoroughly merited [illegible].

[illegible] Argentina bowed out despite [illegible] some neat soccer while the [illegible] es proved a disappointment [illegible] nal finals in Rotterdam [illegible] hosts against the USA and [illegible] against Brazil.

Penalties were needed to separate the Belgians and Brazilians after the teams had finished level at 3-3 after extra-time, with the South Americans winning 5-3.

Holland took the initiative in their semi against the USA, captain Hermans [illegible] ting home from a short free-kick.

The same player scored a second from close range in the second-half and although the Americans pulled a goal back through Garraba, the Dutch hung on to win.

Rotterdam's Ahov Sports Complex staged the final, with an attendance of 4,000 present for the last two matches.

The USA defeated Belgium in the third-place play-off, a win that was extravagantly celebrated as the Americans earned their highest-ever placing in a FIFA tournament.

With a team drawn predominantly from futsal players of the Bradesco club of Rio, Brazil, with their short passing game, started as favourites in the final.

They went ahead after 11 minutes, Benatti brushing aside defenders to place the ball past an outrushing keeper.

With the match some six minutes from completion, the Dutch grabbed a lifeline when Hermans fed Loosveld, who volleyed home the equaliser.

But two minutes later, Raul won possession and struck a fierce volley inside the post to restore Brazil's lead.

OVERSEAS NEWS

DIVISION THREE

	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Wolverhampton	17	5	3	57	26	56
Port Vale	14	4	6	48	27	46
Bristol Rovers	12	8	5	45	30	44
Swansea	12	8	5	36	26	44
Bury	13	5	8	43	34	44
Sheffield United	13	7	5	52	31	42
Preston	11	7	8	40	33	40
Fulham	11	6	9	40	39	39
Chester	11	6	8	39	41	39
Huddersfield	11	4	10	31	35	37
Brentford	9	8	7	34	30	35
Reading	9	6	9	37	36	33
Bristol City	9	6	10	27	29	33
Mansfield	7	11	7	29	32	32
Blackpool	7	10	8	31	37	31
Bolton	8	29	8	34	37	31
Cardiff	8	7	8	28	31	31
Notts County	6	9	9	27	30	27
Wigan	6	8	12	30	35	26
Northampton	6	7	10	30	43	25
Southend	6	6	12	30	46	24
Chesterfield	6	4	15	31	53	22
Gillingham	4	7	18	24	45	20
Aldershot	4	8	13	22	46	20

DIVISION FOUR

	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Crewe	12	5	4	35	25	45
Rotherham	12	8	5	42	30	44
Wrexham	11	9	4	48	34	42
Scunthorpe	11	9	4	44	41	42
Scarborough	11	8	6	39	31	41
Tranmere	10	10	5	31	31	40
Exeter	12	3	10	41	38	39
Torquay	11	6	8	33	31	39
Burnley	10	6	9	30	26	36
Lincoln	10	6	10	41	40	36
Cambridge	10	6	9	40	40	36
Doncaster	10	6	11	33	35	36
Stockport	8	10	8	33	34	34
Hartlepool	9	6	11	25	33	33
Halifax	10	7	13	50	43	32
Carlisle	8	8	10	34	34	32
Leyton Orient	8	7	9	40	28	31
Rochdale	8	7	11	35	46	31
York	8	6	11	34	41	30
Grimsby	7	9	9	37	38	29
Hereford	7	7	11	34	40	28
Peterborough	7	7	12	27	43	28
Darlington	2	13	10	28	44	19
Colchester	3	6	15	27	51	15

● Cont. From P. 2

You don't see them at the games, or working in the game either.

Last Saturday night at Sunshine, the game slowed to a walk in the second half and I'm surprised to see Paul Carter quoted in the paper as being an advocate of the summer season.

He had a nightmare and was substituted after Georgie's third goal.

Maybe he thinks he plays better in summer, in which case I'd hate to see how bad he was in winter.

But it is very noticeable that amongst all the half-baked arguments proffered in favour of summer soccer, no-one has proffered any thoughts about the standard of the game.

The sad fact is that the standard of the NSL has never been poorer, and playing in the 36 degree heat that we experienced on Saturday is going to raise the standard.

You wouldn't have found a single person — player, administrator, fan or pressman — in favour of summer soccer at Sunshine.

As for increased media coverage, don't make me laugh.

The new darling of the ASF, the ABC, introduced its new TV News line-up on Tuesday night, with Arthur Higgins (a pom) covering sport.

And what was Higgins' big story for the night?

He covered Collingwood's first training season for the season, complete with an interview with coach Leigh Matthews.

Summer soccer has had some impact at Ripponlea ... I wonder if Higgins knows the season has started yet, I must ring him and ask.

ENGLISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (FA) CUP — FOURTH ROUND

Aston Villa 0 Wimbledon 1, Blackburn 2 Sheffield Wednesday 1, Bradford 1 Hull 2, Brentford 3 Manchester City 1, Charlton 2 Kettering 1, Hartlepool 1 Bournemouth 1, Manchester United 4 Oxford 0, Norwich 8 Sutton 0, Nottingham Forest 2 Leeds 0, Plymouth 3 Everton 1, Sheffield United 3 Colchester 3, Stoke 3 Barnsley 3, Swindon 0 West Ham 0, Watford 2 Derby 1, Grimsby 1 Reading 1.
Replay dates — Tomorrow: Barnsley v Stoke, Bournemouth v Hartlepool, Colchester v Sheffield United, Everton v Plymouth. Wednesday: Reading v Grimsby, West Ham v Swindon.

ENGLISH LEAGUE — DIVISION THREE

Bristol Rovers 2 Bolton 0, Bury 3 Fulham 1, Cardiff 3 Port Vale 0, Chesterfield 1 Northampton 1, Gillingham 1 Huddersfield 2, Mansfield 0 Blackpool 1, Preston 2 Bristol City 0, Southend 1 Aldershot 1. Postponed: Brentford v Swansea, Chester v Sheffield United, Reading v Wigan.

ENGLISH LEAGUE — DIVISION FOUR

Burnley 1 Stockport 0, Cambridge United 1 Tranmere 1, Carlisle 3 Halifax 1, Darlington 1 Crewe 1, Exeter 5 Rochdale 1, Lincoln 1 Peterborough 1, Scarborough 0 Hereford 2, Scunthorpe 4 York 2, Torquay 3 Doncaster 2. Postponed: Leyton Orient v Hartlepool, Rotherham v Grimsby.

SCOTTISH FA CUP — THIRD ROUND

Alloa 3 Albion 1, Celtic 2 Dumbarton 0, Clydebank 2 Montrose 1, Dundee 1 Dundee United 2, Dunfermline 0 Aberdeen 0, Falkirk 1 Motherwell 1, Forfar 1 Clyde 1, Hearts 4 Ayr 1, Hibernian 1 Brechin 0, Morton 0 Airdrieonians 0, Partick 0 St Mirren 0, Queen of the South 2 Kilmarnock 2, Queen's Park 0 Stranraer 0, Raith 1 Rangers 1, St Johnstone 2 Stenhousemuir 0.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE — DIVISION TWO

East Fife 2 Berwick 2, East Stirling 0 Arbroath 3. Postponed: Albion v Stirling, Alloa v Montrose, Brechin v Stenhousemuir, Dumbarton v Cowdenbeath, Queen's Park v Stranraer.

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WEST END

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

FEBRUARY 4/5

● Theo Selemides

MELBOURNE CROATIA v. BLACKTOWN CITY

SOMERS STREET.
SUNDAY FEB. 5.
K.O. 6 p.m.

● Laurie McKinna

● Drago Deankovic

MELBOURNE J.U.S.T. v. APIA LEICHHARDT

SCHINTLER RESERVE
SATURDAY FEB. 4.
K.O. 5.30 p.m.

● John Kosmina

● Manny Anezakis

SOUTH MELBOURNE v SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

MIDDLE PARK
SUNDAY FEB. 5
K.O. 6 p.m.

● Jeff Faulkner

MARCONI v HEIDELBERG UNITED
MARCONI STADIUM SAT. FEB. 4. K.O. 7.30 p.m.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v ST. GEORGE
ST. GEORGE STADIUM SUNDAY FEB. 5. K.O. 7.30 pm

WOLLONGONG CITY v SYDNEY CROATIA
BRANDON PARK SUNDAY FEB. 5. K.O. 5.30 p.m.

ADELAIDE CITY v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
HINDMARSH STADIUM SUNDAY FEB. 5. K.O. 7.30 p.m.